

RAC

RA' CER. *n. f.* [from *race*.] Runner; one that contends in speed.
His stumbling founder'd jade can trot as high
As any other pegasus can fly;
So the dull eel moves nimbler in the mud,
Than all the swift-finn'd *racers* of the flood. *Dorset.*
A poet's form the plac'd before their eyes,
And bade the nimblest *racer* seize the prize. *Pope.*
RA' CINESS. *n. f.* [from *racy*.] The quality of being racy.
RACK. *n. f.* [*racke*, Dutch, from *racken*, to stretch.]
1. An engine to torture.
Vex not his ghost; O let him pass! he hates him
That would, upon the *rack* of this rough world,
Stretch him out longer. *Shakefp. King Lear.*
Did ever any man upon the *rack* afflict himself, because he
had received a cross answer from his mistress. *Taylor.*
Let them feel the whip, the sword, the fire,
And in the tortures of the *rack* expire. *Addison.*
2. Torture; extreme pain.
A fit of the stone puts a king to the *rack*, and makes him
as miserable as it does the meanest subject. *Temple.*
A cool behaviour sets him on the *rack*, and is interpreted
as an instance of aversion or indifference. *Addison.*
3. Any instrument by which extension is performed.
These bows, being somewhat like the long bows in use
amongst us, were bent only by a man's immediate strength,
without the help of any *winder* or *rack* that are used to
others. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*
4. A distaff; commonly a portable distaff, from which they
spin by twirling a ball.
The sisters turn the wheel,
Empty the woolly *rack*, and fill the reel. *Dryden.*
5. [*Racke*, Dutch, a *rack*.] The clouds as they are driven by
the wind.
That, which is now a horse, even with a thought
The *rack* dissolves, and makes it indistinct
As water is in water. *Shakefp. Antony and Cleopatra.*
The great globe itself,
Yea, all, which it inherits, shall dissolve;
And, like this insubstantial pageant, faded,
Leave not a *rack* behind. *Shakefp. Tempest.*
We often see against some form,
A silence in the heav'ns, the *rack* stand still,
The bold winds speechless, and the orb below
As hush as death. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*
The winds in the upper region, which move the clouds
above, which we call the *rack*, and are not perceived below,
pass without noise. *Bacon's Natural History.*
As wintry winds contending in the sky,
With equal force of lungs their titles try;
They rage, they roar: the doubtful *rack* of heav'n
Stands without motion, and the tide undriv'n. *Dryden.*
6. [*Racca*, the occiput, Saxon; *racca*, Ilandick, hinges or
joints.] A neck of mutton cut for the table.
7. A grate.
8. A wooden grate in which hay is placed for cattle.
Their bulls they send to pastures far,
Or hills, or feed them at full *racks* within. *May's Virgil.*
The best way to feed cattle with it, is to put it in *racks*,
because of the great quantity they tread down. *Mortimer.*
He bid the nimble hours
Bring forth the steeds; the nimble hours obey:
From their full *racks* the generous steeds retire. *Addison.*
9. Arrack; a spirituous liquor. See **ARRACK**.
To **RACK.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To stream as clouds before
the wind.
Three glorious suns, each one a perfect sun,
Not separated with the *racking* clouds,
But sever'd in a pale clear-shining sky. *Shakefp.*
To **RACK.** *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To torment by the rack.
Hold, O dreadful Sir,
You will not *rack* an innocent old man. *Dryden and Lee.*
2. To torment; to harass.
Th' apostate angel, though in pain,
Vaunting aloud, but *rack'd* with deep despair. *Milton.*
3. To harass by exaction.
The landlords there shamefully *rack* their tenants, exacting
of them, besides his covenants, what he pleaseth. *Spenser.*
The commons ha't thou *rack'd*; the clergy's bags
Are lank and lean with thy extortions. *Shakefp.*
He took possession of his just estate,
Nor *rack'd* his tenants with increase of rent. *Dryden.*
4. They *racking* and stretching scripture further than by God
was meant, are drawn into sundry inconveniences. *Hooker.*
The wisest among the heathens *racked* their wits, and cast
about every way, managing every little argument to the ut-
most advantage. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
5. To stretch; to extend.
Nor have I money nor commodity
To raise a present sum;
Try what my credit can in Venice do,
That shall be *rack'd* even to the uttermost. *Shakefp.*

RAD

6. To defecate; to draw off from the lees. I know not whence
this word is derived in this sense; *rein*, German, is clear,
pure, whence our word to *rinse*; this is perhaps of the same
race.
It is common to draw wine or beer from the lees, which
we call *racking*, whereby it will clarify much the sooner.
Bacon.
Some roll their cask about the cellar to mix it with the
lees, and, after a few days resettlement, *rack* it off. *Mortimer.*
RACK-RENT. *n. f.* [*rack* and *rent*.] Rent raised to the utter-
most.
Have poor families been ruined by *rack-rents*, paid for the
lands of the church? *Swift's Miscellanies.*
RACK-RENT. *n. f.* [*rack* and *rent*.] One who pays the
utmost rent.
Though this be a quarter of his yearly income, and the
publick tax takes away one hundred; yet this influences not
the yearly rent of the land, which the *rack-renter* or under-
tenant pays. *Locke.*
RA' CKET. *n. f.* [of uncertain derivation; M. Casaubon derives
it, after his custom, from *gaxia*, the dash of fluctuation
against the shore.]
1. An irregular clattering noise.
That the tennis court keeper knows better than I, it is a
low ebb of linen with thee, when thou keep'st not *rack*
there. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. ii.*
2. A confused talk, in burlesque language.
Ambition hath removed her lodging, and lives the next
door to faction, where they keep such a *rack*, that the whole
parish is disturbed and every night in an uproar. *Swift.*
3. [*Raquette*, Fr.] The instrument with which players strike
the ball. Whence perhaps all the other senses.
When we have matcht our *rackets* to these balls,
We will in France play a set,
Shall strike his father's crown into the hazard. *Shakefp.*
The body, into which impression is made, either can yield
backward or it cannot: if it can yield backward, then the
impression made is a motion; as we see a stroke with a
racket upon a ball, makes it fly from it. *Digby on the Soul.*
He talks much of the motives to do and forbear, how they
determine a reasonable man, as if he were no more than a
tennis-ball, to be tossed to and fro by the *rackets* of the second
causes. *Bramhall against Hobbs.*
RA' CKING. *n. f.*
Racking pace of a horse is the same as an amble, only that
it is a swifter time and a shorter tread; and though it does
not rid so much ground, yet it is something easier. *Far. Dict.*
RA' CKOON. *n. f.*
The *rackoon* is a New England animal, like a badger, hav-
ing a tail like a fox, being clothed with a thick and deep
fur: it sleeps in the day time in a hollow tree, and goes out
at nights, when the moon shines, to feed on the sea fide, where
it is hunted by dogs. *Bailey.*
RA' CY. *adj.* [perhaps from *rayz*, Spanish, a root.] Strong;
flavorous; tasting of the soil.
Rich *rac*cy verses in which we
The soil, from which they come, taste, smell, and see. *Cowley.*
From his brain that Helicon distill,
Whose *rac*cy liquor did his offspring fill. *Denham.*
The cyder at first is very luscious, but if ground more
early, it is more *rac*cy. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
The hospitable sage, in sign
Of social welcome, mix'd the *rac*cy wine,
Late from the mellowing cask restor'd to light,
By ten long years refin'd, and rosy bright. *Pope.*
RAD. the old pret. of *read*. *Spenser.*
RAD.
Rad, *red* and *rad*, differing only in dialect, signify coun-
sel; as Conrad, powerful or skilful in counsel; Ethelred, a
noble counsellor; Rodbert, eminent for counsel; Eubulus
and Thrasylbulus have almost the same sense. *Giffen.*
RA' DDock, or ruddock. *n. f.* A bird.
The *ruddock* would,
With charitable bill, bring thee all this. *Shakefp.*
RA' DIANCE. *n. f.* [*radiare*, Lat.] Sparkling lustre; glitter.
RA' DIANCY. *n. f.* [*radiare*, Lat.] Sparkling lustre; glitter.
By the sacred *radiance* of the sun,
By all the operations of the orbs,
Here I disclaim all my paternal care. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*
Whether there be not too high an apprehension above its
natural *radiance*, is not without just doubt; however it be
granted a very splendid gum, and whose sparkles may some-
what resemble the glances of fire. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
The son
Girt with omnipotence, with *radiance* crown'd
Of majesty divine. *Milton.*
A glory surpassing the sun in its greatest *radiance*, which,
though we cannot describe, will bear some resemblance.
Burnet's Theory of the Earth.
The rapid *radiance* instantaneous strikes
Th' illumin'd mountain. *Thomson's Spring.*
4. **RA' DIANT.**

RAD

RA' DIANT. *adj.* [*radians*, Lat.] Shining; brightly sparkling;
emitting rays.
There was a fun of gold *radiant* upon the top, and before,
a small cherub of gold with wings displayed. *Bacon.*
Mark what *radiant* state the spreads,
In circle round her shining throne,
Shooting her beams like silver threads,
This, this is the alone. *Milton's Arcades.*
Virtue could see to do what virtue would
By her own *radiant* light, though fun and moon
Were in the flat sea funk. *Milton.*
I see the warlike host of heaven,
Radiant in glittering arms and beamy pride,
Go forth to succour truth below. *Milton.*
To **RA' DIATE.** *v. n.* [*radio*, Lat.] To emit rays; to shine;
to sparkle.
Though with wit and parts their possessors could never en-
gage God to send forth his light and his truth; yet now that
revelation hath disclosed them, and that he hath been pleased
to make them *radiate* in his word, men may recollect those
scatter'd divine beams, and kindling with them the topics
proper to warm our affections, enflame holy zeal. *Boyle.*
Light *radiates* from luminous bodies directly to our eyes,
and thus we see the sun or a flame; or it is reflected from
other bodies, and thus we see a man or a picture. *Locke.*
RA' DIATED. *adj.* [*radiatus*, Lat.] Adorned with rays.
The *radiated* head of the phoenix gives us the meaning of
a passage in Aulonius. *Addison.*
RADIATION. *n. f.* [*radiatio*, Lat. *radiation*, Fr.]
1. Beamy lustre; emission of rays.
We have perspective houses, where we make demonstra-
tions of all lights and *radiations*, and of all colours. *Bacon.*
Should I say I liv'd darker than were true,
Your *radiation* can all clouds subdue,
But one; 'tis best light to contemplate you. *Donne.*
2. Emission from a center every way.
Sound paralleleth in many things with the light, and *ra-
diation* of things visible. *Bacon's Natural History.*
RA' DICAL. *adj.* [*radical*, Fr. from *radix*, Latin.]
1. Primitive; original.
The differences, which are secondary and proceed from
these *radical* differences, are, plants are all figurate and de-
terminate, which inanimate bodies are not. *Bacon.*
Such a *radical* truth, that God is, springing up together
with the essence of the soul, and previous to all other thoughts,
is not pretended to by religion. *Bentley.*
2. Implanted by nature.
The emission of the loose and adventitious moisture doth
betray the *radical* moisture, and carrieth it for company. *Bac.*
If the *radical* moisture of gold were separated, it might be
contrived to burn without being consumed. *Wilkins.*
The sun beams render the humours hot, and dry up the
radical moisture. *Arbutnot.*
3. Serving to origination.
RADICALITY. *n. f.* [from *radical*.] Origination.
There may be equivocal seeds and hermaphroditical prin-
ciples, that contain the *radicality* and power of different
forms; thus, in the seeds of wheat, there lieth obscurely the
feminality of dandel. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
RA' DICALLY. *adv.* [from *radical*.] Originally; primitively.
It is no easy matter to determine the point of death in in-
sects, who have not their vitalities *radically* confined unto one
part. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
These great orbs thus *radically* bright,
Primitive founts, and origins of light
Enliven worlds deny'd to human sight. *Prior.*
RA' DICALNESS. *n. f.* [from *radical*.] The state of being
radical.
To **RA' DICATE.** *v. a.* [*radicatus*, from *radix*, Lat.] To
root; to plant deeply and firmly.
Meditation will *radicate* these seeds, fix the transient gleam
of light and warmth, confirm resolutions of good, and give
them a durable confidence in the soul. *Hammond.*
Nor have we let fall our pen upon discouragement of un-
belief, from *radicated* beliefs, and points of high pre-
scription. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
If the object stays not on the sense, it makes not impression
enough to be remembered; but if it be repeated there, it leaves
plenty enough of those images behind it, to strengthen the
knowledge of the object: in which *radicated* knowledge, if
the memory consist, there would be no need of referring those
atoms in the brain. *Glanvill's Defence.*
RADICATION. *n. f.* [*radication*, Fr. from *radicate*.] The act
of fixing deep.
They that were to plant a church, were to deal with men
of various inclinations, and of different habits of sin, and
degrees of *radication* of those habits; and to each of these
some proper application was to be made to cure their souls.
Hammond's Fundamentals.
RA' DICULE. *n. f.* [*radicule*, Fr. from *radix*, Lat.]
Radicule is that part of the seed of a plant, which, upon its
vegetation, becomes its root. *Quincy.*

RAG

RA' DISH. *n. f.* [*radie*, Sax. *radis*, *raifort*, Fr. *raphanus*, Lat.]
A root.
The flower of the *radish* consists of four leaves, which are
placed in the form of a cross; out of the flower-cup rises
the pointal, which afterward turns to a pod in form of an
horn, that is thick, spongy, and furnished with a double row
of roundish seeds, which are separated by a thin membrane:
there are five species; of that which is commonly cultivated
in the kitchen-gardens for its root, there are several varie-
ties; as the small topped, the deep-red, and the long topped
stripped *radish*. *Müller.*
RA' DIUS. *n. f.* [Latin.]
1. The semi-diameter of a circle.
2. A bone of the fore-arm, which accompanies the ulna from
the elbow to the wrist.
To **RAFF.** *v. a.* To sweep; to huddle; to take hastily with-
out distinction.
Their causes and effects I thus *raff* up together. *Carew.*
To **RA' FLE.** *v. n.* [*raffler*, to snatch, Fr.] To cast dice for
a prize, for which every one lays down a stake.
Letters from Hampstead give me an account, there is a late
institution there, under the name of a *raffing* shop. *Taylor.*
RA' FLE. *n. f.* [*raffle*, Fr. from the verb.] A species of game
or lottery, in which many stake a small part of the value of
some single thing, in consideration of a chance to gain it.
The toy, brought to Rome in the third triumph of Pompey,
being a pair of tables for gaming, made of two precious stones,
three foot broad, and four foot long, would have made a fine
raffle. *Arbutnot on Coins.*
RAFT. *n. f.* [probably from *rat*, Latin.] A frame or float
made by laying pieces of timber cross each other.
Where is that son
That floated with thee on the fatal *raft*. *Shakefp.*
Fell the timber of yon lofty grove,
And form a *raft*, and build the rising ship. *Pope.*
RAFT. part. pass. of *raff* or *raff*. *Spenser.* Torn; rent.
RA' FTER. *n. f.* [*rafter*, Sax. *rafter*, Dutch; corrupted, says
Junius, from *roof tree*.] The secondary timbers of the
house; the timbers which are let into the great beam.
The *rafters* of my body, bone,
Being fill with you, the muscle, finew and vein;
Which tile this house, will come again. *Donne.*
Shepherd,
I trust thy honest offer'd courtesy,
Which oft is sooner found in lowly sheds
With smoky *rafters*, than in tap'stry halls. *Milton.*
On them the Trojans cast
Stones, *rafters*, pillars, beams. *Denham.*
From the East, a Belgian wind
His hostile breath through the dry *rafters* sent;
The flames impell'd. *Dryden.*
The roof began to mount aloft,
Aloft rose every beam and *rafter*,
The heavy wall climb'd slowly after. *Swift's Miscel.*
RA' FTERED. *adj.* [from *rafter*.] Built with rafters.
No *rafter* red roofs with dance and tabor found,
No noon-tide bell invites the country round. *Pope.*
RAG. *n. f.* [*Ryaccobe*, torn, Saxon; *gax*, Fr.]
1. A piece of cloth torn from the rest; a tatter.
Cows, hoods and habits, with their wearers tost,
And flutter'd into *rags*. *Milton.*
Rags are a great improvement of chalky lands. *Mortimer.*
2. Any thing rent and tattered; worn out cloaths.
Fathers that wear *rags*,
Do make their children blind;
But fathers that bear bags,
Shall see their children kind. *Shakefp. King Lear.*
Worn like a cloth;
Gnawn into *rags* by the devouring moth.
Content with poverty, my soul I arm;
And virtue, though in *rags*, will keep me warm. *Dryden.*
3. A fragment of dress.
He had first matter seen undrest;
He took her naked all alone,
Before one *rag* of form was on. *Hudibras, p. i.*
RAGAMUFFIN. *n. f.* [from *rag* and I know not what else.]
I have led my *ragamuffins* where they were pepper'd; there's
not three of my hundred and fifty left alive; and they are
for the town's end to beg during life. *Shakefp. Henry IV.*
Shall we brook that paltry ass
And feeble scoundrel, Hudibras,
With that more paltry *ragamuffin*,
Ralpho, vapouring and huffing. *Hudibras, p. i.*
Attended with a crew of *ragamuffins*, he broke into his
house, turned all things topsy-turvy, and then set it on
fire. *Swift.*
RAGE. *n. f.* [*rage*, Fr.]
1. Violent anger; vehement fury.
This tiger-footed *rage*, when it shall find
The harm of unkind'd swiftness, will, too late,
Tie leaden pounds to's heels. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
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